

THE EVENING NEWS - 7 Feb 69



Another CIA Group For FM?

By Luis D. Beltran

The way the Senate investigations of "CIA meddling" is going, the day may come when all of us will be looking under our beds in the morning, expecting to find a CIA agent hiding there.

The investigation of the Senate committee on privileges headed by Senator Leonardo Perez, finally got its "star witness" to testify yesterday, in the person of former Press Secretary J. V. Cruz. Cruz had been the one who had "exposed" an alleged plot of the US Central Intelligence Agency to back the presidential candidacy of Senator Genaro Magsaysay. As expected, Cruz declined to name the source of what he called a rumor in his column, and expressed a wish to "tell all" only in a closed door, executive session of the committee. As he said, he had to "protect my sources," even should they happen to be in Malacañang and well able to protect themselves.

—oOo—

However, the "star witness" as it turned out, was Senator Benigno Aquino, Jr. In a question to J. V. Cruz, Aquino asked if Cruz was familiar with the name "Capucci, Joseph, Brigadier General, and chief of the Office of Special Investigations, US Air Force." Cruz said he did not place the name. Ninoy Aquino then elaborated.

According to him, Brigadier General Capucci was given the Philippine Legion of Honor decoration, degree of commander, by no less than President Marcos himself, for having contributed to the training of the Presidential Security Unit.

According to Aquino, the CIA Who is Who indicated that General Capucci was "high in the ranks of the CIA."

Ninoy then asked: "Is it possible that another group of CIA agents may be backing the candidacy of President Marcos?"

Cruz answered: "It is not impossible."

—oOo—

Actually, the decoration of Capucci was not a secret, being the subject of Press Release No. 3 of the Malacañang press office. The release said that Capucci was being decorated for "signal contributions to the training and development of the Presidential Security Unit." No less than the President noted that "the USAF general has unselfishly extended personal and official support to the PSU and provided training assistance, technical equipment and expertise, thereby promoting the unit's efficiency and protective capability." In short, if as Aquino says Capucci is a CIA agent, then the President's personal security men have been trained by courtesy of the CIA. This debunks the allegation of Cruz that the CIA may resort to "Assassination. Physical." to prevent the reelection of Mr. Marcos. In fact, it seems to indicate that Mr. Marcos is closer to being a candidate of the CIA than even Genaro Magsaysay.

That is, if one will believe Senator Ninoy Aquino.

—oOo—

A friend of ours had a harrowing experience recently when he took the Philippine National Railways train to San Fernando, La Union. The source of his horror was the behavior of the squatters all along the PNR tracks. At one point, a woman met the oncoming train, walking in the middle of the tracks and ignoring the train whistle until the train had to come almost to a complete stop. When the train, moving at 15 KPH instead of the usual 25 KPH, almost was on top of her, the woman jumped to the side and a PNR fireman ran after her to apprehend her, but she had disappeared in the rabbit warren of the squatter shanties. At another point, as the train slowed down, garbage suddenly hurtled from the squatter shacks, sailing through the train window. All along the tracks, piles of dirt and garbage, as well as a log, big pieces of rock, etc. had been laid along the railroad tracks. What

P-Beltran, Luis D.
P-Cruz, J.V.
Aquino, Ninoy
Soc. 4.01.2 Germany
(Who's Who in STAT)

C.I.A. 4-Philippines
Magsaysay, Genaro